WINCHESTER NEWS
A TRUSTED AND RELIABLE SOURCE OF LOCAL NEWS

Donate

DONATE | NEWS | SPORTS | EVENTS | FEATURES | OPINION | NEWSLETTER | CONTACT | ABOUT

HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us — Marge Labedz is senior volunteer at Jenks

JOYCE WESTNER | STAFF WRITER

January 3, 2025 . 6:00 AM — 2 min read

At age 99, Marge Labedz is the most senior of the volunteers at the Jenks Center — and she has no plans to stop any time soon. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/JOYCE WESTNER

Perhaps the most senior and most experienced helper in Winche
Jenks volunteer Marge Labedz.

Subscribe

She's been helping out since 1978 when the Jenks Center opened, and has stayed through 10 directors' terms.

The Olive Street resident is almost 99, sharp as a tack and very active.

"I walk all the time," she says.

Subscribe

Marge Labedz lays the wreath during the Veterans Day ceremonies in Winchester. COURTESY PHOTO/MARGE LABEDZ

Labedz has great respect for the Jenks.

Subscribe

“It’s a great place,” she says. “It gets seniors out of the house and involved with people.”

Labedz has been volunteering all her life. One of three kids, she explains her father trained them all well.

“We packaged up gifts for soldiers during World War II, things like shaving materials,” she says. “And when I was in high school, I was involved in shows sponsored by the Red Cross. We’d visit hospitals and other places where the military needed cheering.”

Donate

A Winchester hospital volunteer (she was a medical transcriptionist before she retired), Labedz also does many things with the local VFW.

“I was president for a while,” she says. “I’d organize programs, and I still march in the parade on Veterans Day.”

And when veterans are asked to be in an honor guard for a funeral, “when they can’t get enough men,” she says, “they call Margie.”

At the Jenks, Labedz has done a lot of things.

“At first I was the baby because I joined before I was technically old enough,” she says, adding she used to help prepare lunches before they hired a professional company.

She also organized fashions shows and lectures, and she helps train new volunteers. Now her main job is getting the newsletter mailed out to 1,600 households.

Subscribe

“The staff does a great job,” she says.

As for the secret of her good health, Labedz says she used to be a runner and she did the Walk for Hunger for 10 years. She also walks with kids in the Special Olympics.

But mostly, this grandmother of seven and great-grandmother of 10 says, “I’ve been blessed.”

Winchester News is a non-profit organization supported by our community. If you appreciate having local Winchester news, please donate to support our work, and subscribe to our free weekly newsletter.

Related

HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us - WinPAC unites with light

On a cold and blustery day, two post-graduate Winchester High School students and others stood outside the Stop & Shop inviting folks to buy luminary kits as part of the Unite with Light event planned for Sunday, Dec. 14. The successful program

HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us - Alisa Dong needs your help with Thanksgiving food drive

Standish Lane resident Alisa Dong has only lived in town for about four years, but she’s already immersed in helping people. And she wants residents to help
Thanksgiving Day meals for

Subscribe

was started by Mairin Norton, a high-schooler who

JOYCE WESTNER | STAFF WRITER
November 27, 2025

insecure residents. A member of the town's Family Action Network (FAN), Dong is its

JOYCE WESTNER | STAFF WRITER
November 18, 2025

HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us — Coaches volunteer to bring on the cheer

You probably know that cheerleaders appear at sporting events to cheer on their teams, but you might not know that cheerleading is a sport in its own right. Or that Winchester Cheer coaches volunteer to help girls and boys learn and compete in cheerleading. Middlesex Street resident Erin Black is

JOYCE WESTNER | STAFF WRITER
November 14, 2025

HELPERS AMONG US

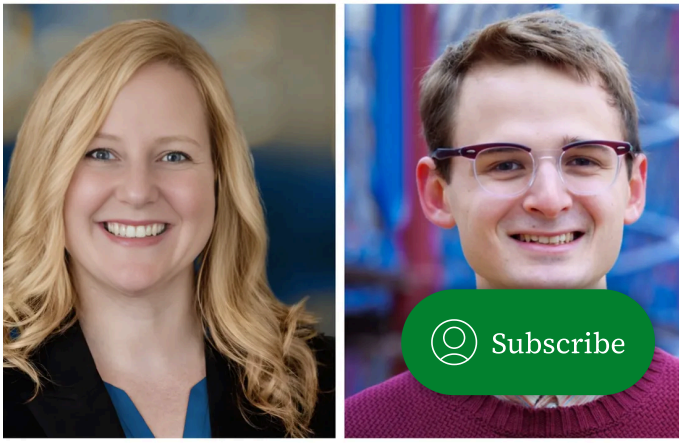
Helpers Among Us - Patti Reilly wants your children's clothes

Although Patti Reilly opened her boutique, Jules, about a year and a half ago, she's already discovered the generosity of Winchester residents. That's why she and her husband, John, decided to offer a 10% discount on one item to anyone who brings in "gently used children's clothing.

JOYCE WESTNER | STAFF WRITER
November 10, 2025

Latest

PROMOTING HEALTH & EMPOWERMENT
HEAR FROM HIGH SCHOOL LEADERS
LEARN THROUGH INTERACTIVE GAMES
MEET NEW PEOPLE
FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY
Middle school & high school students, teachers, parents, friends, community members - come and bring a friend!
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
EMAIL OFFICE@NFSJ.ORG
CALL 781-729-7100
NETWORK for SOCIAL JUSTICE
FROM WINCHESTER AND CHELSEA
GIRL UP
WOMEN IN STEM
GIRLS GOTTA RUN
MIND & MATTER



EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

March 4, 2026

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

Subscribe

WINCHESTER NEWS
A TRUSTED AND RELIABLE SOURCE OF LOCAL NEWS

Subscribe to Winchester News

© 2026 Winchester News Group, Inc. Copying and sharing with permission for non-commercial use only.

Subscribe